

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the final office action mailed June 21, 2006 and offers the following remarks to accompany the above amendments.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 13-16, 41, and 55 are allowed. Applicant also notes that claims 3, 5, 7, 12, 38-40, and 52-56 were objected to, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claim 3 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of claims 1 and 2. Claim 5 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of claims 1 and 4. Claims 7 and 12 have been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of claim 1. Claim 13 has been amended to depend from allowable claim 12. Claims 27 has been amended to include a limitation similar to the one in allowable claims 52-56. Claims 38-40 have been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of claim 37. Claim 52 has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of claim 1. Claims 1, 2, 4, 20-24, 26, 32-37, 51, 53, and 54 have been cancelled. Claims 6, 9, 13, 17, and 43-49 have been amended to depend from an allowed claim or from a claim deemed to be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 9-11, 17-24, 26-37, 41, and 51 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,707,421 B1 to Drury et al. (hereinafter “Drury”). As a result of the amendments, all pending claims have been previously allowed, have been rewritten to include allowable subject matter, or depend from an allowed or allowable claim. In light of the above amendments pending claims 3, 5-19, 27-31, 38-41, 43-50, 52, 55, and 56 are now in condition for allowance and the rejection should be withdrawn.

The present application is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. The Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant’s representative regarding any remaining issues in an effort to expedite allowance and issuance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,
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